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1896. 1896.

...CATALOGUE...

OF

STRAWBERRY PLANTS

AND

GLADIOLUS BULBS.

FREE TO ALL.

LIBRARY RECEIVED U. S. Department of Agriculture.

M. CRAWFORD, Cuyahoga Falls, O.

WM. BELT. (HALF DIAMETER.)

TO MY CUSTOMERS.

This catalogue contains a complete list of such plants and bulbs as I have for sale. I have given prices on such quantities as I can furnish and it is useless to ask prices on larger quantities.

Do not ask me my "private opinion" of varieties. It is already given in the catalogue.

To induce people to order early I will send for each dollar received for plants before March 1, one plant of the new seedling strawberry, described on page 9; for each dollar for bulbs, I will send two No. 3 Mabel bulbs.

I do not ship plants by freight. I guarantee the safe arrival of those sent by mail or express before May 1st.

Where plants are ordered sent by express, 5 cents per dozen or 20 cents per 100 may be deducted from catalogue prices.

The utmost care is taken to avoid errors and all plants are packed in the best possible manner. If mistakes do occur they will be cheerfully rectified if I am notified immediately.

When ordering please state whether other varieties may be substituted in case those ordered are sold out. I can often do this to advantage but do not do so without permission.

Money may be sent at my risk by New York Draft, Post Office or Express Money Order or Registered Letter. Less than a dollar may be sent in stamps.

My terms are cash, except to some of my regular customers with whom past dealings have been satisfactory to me.

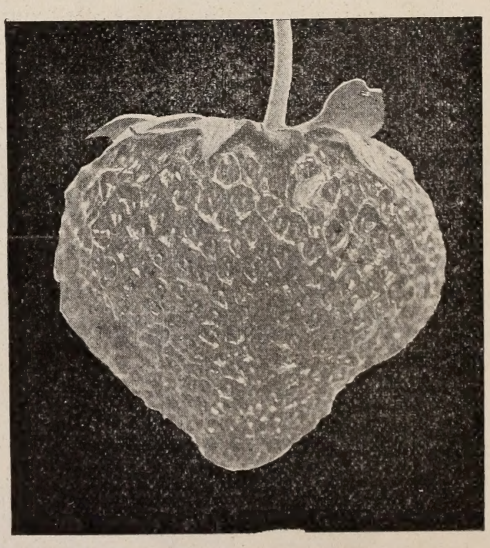
Varieties having pistillate blossoms are marked (P).

Six plants at dozen rates; 50 at hundred rates; 500 at thousand rates.

This year I offer my patrons a large number of new and comparatively new varieties of strawberries. Purchasers must bear in mind that varieties do well in some places and poorly in others, and must take their own chances on having these do well with them. My business is to collect what are reported to be good varieties from all parts of the world and supply them to those who want them. All plants offered this spring, except those of the Ideal and Oriole, are of my own growing, strong and healthy, grown from plants which have never fruited. They ought to do well if the variety is adapted to the conditions under which it is placed. But if it is not so adapted, I am not to be blamed.

The Wm. Belt Strawberry.

THIS VARIETY was originated in southern Ohio, about eight years ago, by the late Wm. Belt. Six years ago he sent it to me on trial, claiming that it was larger than the Bubach, twice as productive and of better quality. After testing it on light and heavy soils, and in both hills and matted rows, I am of the opinion that it is the most desirable variety that ever was on my place, and I offer it to my customers with the greatest confidence. It has been tested by a number of experiment stations, and has made a good record as far as I know.



WM. BELT.

The plant is very large, a most luxuriant grower, and remarkably productive. At the end of last year's drouth, early in November, it was not surpassed for green, healthy appearance by any one of over 100 varieties on my place. Its blossoms are perfect, and it seems that each one is followed by a berry. It is medium in ripening—neither very early nor very late. Its size is very large indeed. No other variety ever gave me so many immense berries. In picking twelve quarts from a matted row with good common culture, I selected thirty-seven that filled three quart baskets; and the other nine quarts were all large. I have seen eight-inch berries on spring set plants within ten weeks of planting. In form it is conical.

rather long and quite uniform in shape, except that the first berry on a fruit stalk is some times misshapen, especially with high culture. The color is a brilliant, glossy red—as near perfection as was ever seen in a berry. It ripens all over without green tips. The quality is good,—better than is usually found in large berries.

TENNYSON—Originated in northern Arkansas by T. R. Tennyson, an old and experienced fruit grower. It is the result of several years of scientific labor with a number of everbearing varieties from California and Oregon. It is entirely distinct from any heretofore produced in that it bears from April until November. This is abundantly supported by testimony which I can not print here. It commences to ripen with the Crescent and continues from three to four weeks. After an intermission of about two weeks, the second crop begins to ripen, and this continues without intermission as long as the weather remains favorable. With irrigation the plants will produce fruit until early frost. The berries of the second crop while not so plentiful are very large, in some instances five or six berries covering the top of a quart box. While the first crop grows on short stems about and under the leaves, the second crop grows on strong stems several inches above the ground. These fruit stems spring up throughout the season, and it is not an uncommon sight to see three or four crops represented on a single hill, showing all stages of development from bud to perfect fruit. The fruit is from medium to very large, and firm enough to carry to distant markets. The color is a combination of red and yellow—perhaps what we call orange scarlet.

The blossom is perfect. The plant is a good, healthy grower, and makes an average number of runners.

It has not fruited here. I expect it will be a perpetual bearer at the north where the soil is not too rich in nitrogen, and water is supplied.

ORIOLE AND IDEAL.—Seedlings of the Bubach crossed with the Hoffman, originated by J. W. Kerr, one of the most scientific fruit growers of Maryland.

ORIOLE—"Plant a vigorous grower, with pistillate blossoms; fruit large to very large, very similar in shape to Bubach; dark scarlet color, seeds sufficiently prominent to make it a first-class shipper; flesh very firm, deep scarlet color to the very center; rich and high flavor. Very productive. Season three days later than Michel."—PROF. M. H. BECKWITH.

IDEAL.—"A strong, vigorous plant with perfect blossoms; fruit large to very large, calyx prominent. The berry is broadly heart-shaped, very uniform in shape, never coxcombed; color, bright scarlet flesh, very firm, deep scarlet throughout, quality excellent. Vines very productive. Begins ripening with Dayton about four days ahead of Bubach, but continues in bearing much longer."—PROF. M. H. BECKWITH.

BRANDYWINE.—I believe this to be a more reliable strawberry than any of its predecessors, and I am proud to have introduced it. This catalogue would not contain all that has been written in its favor, but only a brief account of it can be given here.

In the spring of 1889, E. T. Ingram of Pennsylvania, discovered three plants growing among some raspberries and noted their unusual vigor and large blooms. They were removed to the garden and allowed to increase, and the next year they fruited and proved that the variety was new and superior. Since then it has been grown in many parts of the country, and is without a doubt the best well tested variety for either home use or market. If growers over the country knew as much about this berry as I do, every plant obtainable would be engaged within a week.

BRANDYWINE.

E. P. Darlington, who has sold the Brandywine all the time it has been grown, says that in his thirty years experience growing and selling berries, the Brandywine has given more satisfaction to seller and purchaser than any other he has handled. Again that he was able to return 50 per cent. more for them picked the day before sold and hauled four miles, than for Bubach grown one-half mile

from his store, picked and sold the same day; and that it has displaced all other varieties, even the Sharpless, for his trade.

"One season the Sharpless and Jessie blossoms were killed by a single frost; were not worth picking. The Brandywine lost a few early blooms, but bore a fine crop; the next two seasons the Gandy (late) blossoms were injured by cold rains; scarcely any perfect fruit ripened, while the Brandywine ripened a full crop each season, some of the last being imperfect. It is a long time in bearing. We picked ripe berries from the same patch last season from May 20th to June 30th "—E. T. INGRAM.

"Brandywine, of immense size and fine quality, quite firm and shapely for so large a berry. Foliage of the largest and thriftiest, entirely free of scald or blemish. Heavy peduncles. The average size is as large as any ever raised and the shape is more uniformly good than that of any other of the largest varieties. In general it is heart-shaped, often broadly so without neck. Its most pronounced irregularity inclines towards a Sharpless shape, occasionally as of two berries joined together. Calyx and sepals broad and many. Medium red, flesh red, firm and solid for a large berry—none more so. Quality not the best, but fully as good as Sharpless, and better than Bubach. Vines exceedingly prolific. The best berry in our collection of this season up to date. Brandywine continues a long time in fruit, and is of superior shape, quality and size for so large a berry. Foliage perfect."—Rural New-Yorker.

SPARTA.—Originated on the Thayer fruit farms in Wisconsin. I have not fruited it, but give M. A. Thayer's account of it. (M. A. Thayer is the author of the berry bulletins that are printed in most of the agricultural papers). The Sparta took first prize at the summer meeting of the Wisconsin State Horticultural Society.

"A seedling from Warfield and Jessie, and is hardy, vigorous, large size, perfect in blossom, early, has a large green calyx adding to the beauty of the berry. We have it on clay and sand and it proves equally valuable on either.

The berries are very large. Color, dark glossy red. Flesh firm and excellent quality. Seeds near the surface, which, combined with its natural firmness makes it valuable for shipping. A fertilizer for the Warfield that can be shipped and picked with it."

ENORMOUS.—A seedling of the Crescent, originated by B. O. Curtis, of Illinois, who speaks of it as follows:

"It is pistillate and blooms so late that frost has not at any time injured its blossoms. It has borne seven crops in succession without any failure. I now name it as above for its great size and enormous productiveness. It is a very large and beautiful deep scarlet berry, unsurpassed in quality. It possesses all the noble qualities of the Edgar Queen, and is ten days later. Just as the Edgar Queen is gone, the Enormous comes in with its immense crop of magnificent berries. It is one of the largest and latest varieties known. It is one of the most beautiful and the most delicious in quality. The Edgar Queen is the only variety that rivals it in productiveness. The plant is a very strong and vigorous grower; leaves of a dark glossy green color. All in all it is the most beautiful plant and valuable berry that I have ever known. It is the nearest approach to the ideal berry."

I fruited the Enormous last year, and am inclined to think that it is very nearly all that Mr. Curtis claims for it. While all others near it—except the Mary—were frozen when in bloom, it produced a good many fine berries. The plant is fine indeed.

The originator of the Bubach wrote me that it is larger than the Bubach and about twice as productive.

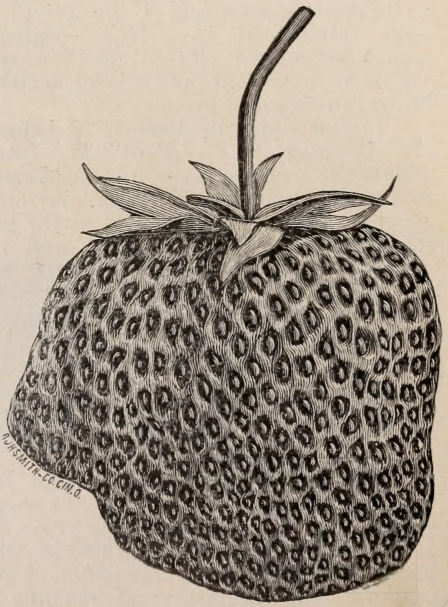
The New York Experiment Station reported it as more productive than Crescent.

T. T. Lyon, of the Michigan Station, reports that in '93 it produced 155 ounces of fruit while others under similar treatment produced 66 ounces.

MARSHALL.—I have fruited this three times and have seen enough of it to satisfy me that it is one of the greatest berries ever put on the market. The plant is very large, a good grower, usually free from rust, productive and makes a sufficient number of runners. The blossom is perfect. It is the earliest very large berry that has fruited here.

Marshall Ewell, who found this variety growing wild in Massachusetts, raised 3,000 quarts on one-third of an acre, in matted rows, without winter protection.

For several years it has been the principal prizetaker at the Boston strawberry show. Fourteen berries have filled a quart basket half an inch above the top, and it never produces any crooked, misshapen berries. It has been the chief



MARSHALL.

attraction at the Boston show for years. A friend who saw it says it is too large to be crated. No other berry has ever made such a sensation in New England. We rarely find all the desirable qualities in one variety, but the Marshall seems to be an exception. Besides being the largest size, and good form, it is firm, dark, glossy red, and of superior quality.

While I have such a high opinion of the Marshall it is not a variety for careless cultivators. With high culture it will be a pleasant surprise, but it has not been demonstrated that it will succeed over a wide area with common field culture.

After next June we shall know more about it.

ELEANOR.—"The Eleanor is one of a number of choice seedlings found in Atlantic County, N. J. Careful testing and fruiting proved it to be the best of the lot and a plant of wonderful promise, which subsequent growing and fruiting has fully confirmed. Among known varieties, this is one of the very earliest. In size the berry is very large, ranking with Sharpless, Gandy and other large varieties in this respect. It retains its size well to the last picking. It resembles Wilson in shape and is of a pleasing vivid scarlet color, very bright and attractive, coloring very evenly all over, with no white tip; flesh firm and of very good quality. The plant does one good to look at, being large and of vigorous growth, foliage abundant and healthy with no sign of rust or other disease about it, though other varieties adjoining were burnt to the ground and ruined. It is exceedingly productive. The blossoms are perfect." —Introducer.

MARY (P).—"It is the largest strawberry yet introduced, the most prolific, the most beautiful and firmest large berry yet offered. The berries are uniformly of the conical form, with blunt apex, exceptionally uniform in size and shape, deep crimson color, and of extra rich, high quality. Of the entire list of strawberries there is not a single sort that will keep longer when ripe, or endure shipping better. Its season is medium to late, the berries retaining their large size remarkably well to the end. A characteristic of the variety is that its fruit is rarely ill-shaped, never coxcombed—an unusual feature in a large berry."

The plant is large, vigorous and healthy. Last season when other varieties near by were frozen, it produced a fair crop of large berries, but not of the best quality.

SUNNYSIDE (P).—Originated by C. S. Pratt, of Massachusetts. In 1893 and 1894 it was the most productive variety fruited at the New York Experiment Station. It has not fruited here, but it is all that can be desired for healthy, vigorous growth. The originator is an experienced grower, and he has this to say about it:

"The strawberry novelty for 1895. The following points show the superiority of the Sunnyside over all other berries now grown: It is the latest, ripening about July 1st; it is very vigorous and never rusts; it is immensely productive; it is a most excellent shipper; it is by all odds the handsomest berry ever exhibited, and would be selected among a hundred varieties as the most showy berry."

SPLENDID.—This belongs to the Warfield or Crescent class, but is with me, of more value than either of them. It is the deepest rooting variety on my place and is as hardy and healthy as any in cultivation. Besides being a very vigorous grower, and having a perfect blossom, it is exceedingly productive. Fruit large, globular, of good color, ripens all over, firm, and of fine quality. No one need hesitate about planting it largely for either a near or distant market. It has been well tested and seems to succeed everywhere.

AROMA AND CYCLONE.—"AROMA is a very late berry with a perfect flower, also a very late bloomer, and would not recommend it for a pollenizer for any of the early varieties. For a mammoth berry it surely surpasses any in cultivation. The berry is simply enormous and solid; never has shown any indications of rot in our two last rainy seasons. It is a good keeper and the finest shipping berry I have. Its foliage is dark green and for healthfulness there is not a spot or blemish on it. For flavor it is superior to any. As to its productiveness will say, do not expect that you will see on Aroma 100 to 200 fine large berries to a plant, like some introducers claim for their seedlings. What we claim is from 7 to 10 and 12 large berries to a plant, nearly all of an equal size, always perfect shape. Its true shape is like a Ben Davis apple. It is also a vigorous grower, and as a plant producer it is immense, and should be planted by all who wish to grow a good strawberry.

CYCLONE has also a perfect flower, is as early as Crescent, the plant is large and a vigorous grower free from rust. Is as healthy and hardy as any ever sent out, it makes many runners, is enormously productive. It excels all other varieties we have ever fruited of the early varieties. We do not claim for it the largest size, but that it is above medium average, always of a uniform shape, a beautiful color—the berries color all over at once a bright red, then changing to a dark glossy red—the flavor is excellent and a No. 1 berry."—F. W. CRUSE Originator.

I have fruited these two berries, and find them to be just about what Mr. Cruse claims. It is fair, however, to say that the Marshall and Wm. Belt are fully equal to the Aroma in size and flavor.

FAR WEST.—"A variety from the state of Washington for which great things are claimed; it is a shuckless variety, a magnificent fruiter, large, long, sweet, and of exquisite flavor, one of the finest growing strawberries we have ever seen. We have reason to believe that this strawberry is going to prove of great value."

MEXICAN.—"A plant with, heavy, dark green foliage; fruit vigorous in size,

cherry red in color, deliciously sweet and highly flavored; a tremendous fruiter; everbearing in southern California."—S. L. WATKINS.

BRUNETTE.—"Fruits large, round, conical, regular; very dark crimson color, seeds sunken, flesh dark, productiveness 8 quality 9 5, firmness 9, berry very attractive in appearance, and the plants are strong and healthy."—Mich. Ex. Sta.

STAPLES.—Plant of moderate size, but one of the most vigorous and healthy ever seen. Over 1,100 plants have been grown from one in a single season by ordinary layering. Forty-eight plants set out in August made a bed that produced over four bushels the following year. It has a perfect blossom and is enormously productive. I have fruited it three times and have faith in it. It is about the size and shape of its parent, the Warfield, has a slight neck, and the color is VERY DARK glossy red. It is much darker clear through than any other variety I have seen. It is fully up to the average in firmness and of superior quality.

IVANHOE.—From southern Ohio. After fruiting it five years, I can recommend it as a very desirable berry. The plant is a good grower, healthy, and productive. Blossom perfect. Fruit large, of regular conical form, rather long, bright scarlet, colors all over, firm and excellent.

PREMIUM (P).—Originated some ten years ago from seed of the Jersey Queen. It was found to be so desirable that it was planted extensively, but no plants were sold until 1894, when a correspondent of mine succeeded in obtaining a few. From him I procured some plants the same year. I think the variety has not been dissemminated to any extent, for I know of but one other party who offers it for sale. From what I have heard it has made a great record. The plant is a healthy, vigorous grower, is rather low and stocky, and sends out a sufficient number of runners. It has not fruited here. My friend, who is an experienced grower, after watching the Premium for years, says that it is a fine grower, perfectly healthy, free from rust, and exceedingly productive. It is a very late bloomer, and its ripening period is from medium until very late—ten days after all others. It is very large throughout the season, and always of uniform shape. It ripens all over, never any green tips, bright crimson color, with prominent golden seeds. It is a heavy, solid berry, and of the best quality. It has always taken the premium wherever exhibited. It is thought to be the HANDSOMEST BERRY IN THE WORLD.

ANNIE LAURIE.—I have had this berry five years, and sent it out last season for the first time. It was originated by Mr. Beaver, of Montgomery County, Ohio, who is one of the most successful growers in the country. For those who desire to raise fine berries for home use or exhibition, I can recommend the Annie Laurie. The plant is strong and stocky, and as free from rust as any I ever saw. The blossom is perfect. The fruit is large, roundish, firm, dark glossy red and very beautiful. The seeds are yellow and stand out well. The quality of the berry is probably not excelled.

BERLIN.—From Maryland. The originators are experienced fruit growers, and find this one of their most profitable varieties. It has not fruited here, but has made a good healthy growth. The plant is a thrifty grower of the Bubach type, and produces dark red berries of great size, holding them well up from the ground. The blossom is pistillate. It ripens a few days later than the Bubach, and is as large and much firmer.

GARDNER.—Found growing wild in Iowa seven years ago. Its large size caused the finder to cultivate it, and it is coming to the front as a variety of great merit. It is well recommended by competent men, but it has not fruited here. It is a healthy, vigorous grower, and has a perfect blossom. It is claimed to be very early, of large size, of fine flavor, and fully equal to the Crescent in productiveness.

"Last year we noted in Rural Life the promise of the new seedling strawberry originated by C. F. Gardner. This season we have given attention to the plant, blossom, and fruit. Joining our observations to the reports of the originator and others we conclude the Gardner will have a place in our select list. It is hard in these days to produce a variety that excels in every point some of our favorites. But I can safely say that as a pollen bearer the Gardner is scarcely equalled, and in the quantity of fruit it sets, it equals Parker Earle. In size, color, and quality, it is not superior to Haverland. In color it is not quite equal to the latter. But it has a merit not possessed by Crescent, Parker Earle, Beder Wood, Warfield, or Haverland; it holds up well in shipping. Mr. Gardner sent us four boxes that were delayed in some way and reached us two days after the letter. Yet we failed to find a crushed berry in the boxes. Our guess is that friend Gardner has discovered a very valuable berry."—PROF. J. L. BUDD, Rural Life, June 29.

JAY GOULD (P).—Originated in eastern Ohio eight years ago. It is claimed to be earlier than the Crescent, much larger, and of better quality. For vigorous growth it is all right. It produced a good many berries last season, but as no sort was at its best I am unable to give an opinion concerning it.

BELLE.—I have fruited this six years, and know it to have the following characteristics: It has a perfect blossom, is a luxuriant grower and a great bearer. It ripens from medium to very late. The fruit is very large, usually long, but occasionally flattened, dark glossy red, firm and of good quality.

TENNESSEE PROLIFIC.—This is perhaps the most popular market berry in Maryland and Virginia, where it is best known. I have never heard an unfavorable report concerning it. No person is likely to discover any weakness in the plant or its habits of growth and productiveness. The fruit is large, bright glossy red, and of good quality.

TIMBRELL.—This is one of the most desirable varieties I ever saw, being all that was ever claimed for it; but, that "patchy" or "mottled" appearance is agaist it in market. I have no plants.

HOLLAND (P).—"A rank, upright grower, of the Sharpless type of foliage, a strong plant maker, and wonderfully productive of extra large fruit. It is different from most of the large berries already on the standard list in that it holds its size to the last pickings; all are large to very large. Form round to obiong, positively no coxcombed or ill shaped fruit. Ripens with Crescent; color crimson, and dark red clear through, not white inside and hollow like many others. A firm good shipper. It has a pistillate blossom."—Introducer.

TUBBS.—"The plants are large and vigorous; the fruit is large, well-shaped, a deep crimson, and is noted for its shipping qualities; holds up well; flavor delicious; ripens early, bears longer, and the fruit is of good size, even at the last gatherings."—Introducer.

HENRY WARD BEECHER.—"The plant is all that one could ask, thrifty, vigorous healthy and immensely productive. The berries are large, irregular in shape, calyx reflexed, dark crimson, firm and of fine flavor. It ripens early,"—Introducer.

RIO.—"It is nearly the earliest variety of our collection, and far the hardiest. The berries are the largest and best quality. Scarlet, medium form, high quality, broadly ovate, somewhat fan shaped but not coxcombed. As a first early berry this is well worthy of a trial, because of its size, shape, quality and color. We know of no better quality in so early a berry."—Rural New-Yorker.

COLUMBIAN.—I have not fruited this variety, but if all that has been said in its favor is true, it will displace all other early sorts. Every good quality is claimed for it, and it might be well to test it.

BEVERLY.—A seedling of the Miner's Prolific, originated in 1888, by B. M. Smith, of Beverly, Mass. It is one of the few berries that proved to be all that was claimed for it. The plant is vigorous, healthy and productive. Blossom, perfect. Berry, large, conical, dark, glossy red, colors all over, firm, fine looking and very good. It bears a long time.

ISABELLA.—I obtained this from an experienced grower of New Jersey, who says that it is a very large, firm berry, good color, and as productive as any one of over thirty varieties that he had in bearing in 1894. The Cleveland Nursery Co. says it is the best berry ever sent out, being large, early, firm, productive and healthy. It has made a good growth here, but has not fruited yet.

FOUNTAIN.— "This is the largest and most beautiful strawberry that has ever been offered for sale. Its name will become world-wide as the most important new strawberry that has been introduced since the advent of the old Wilson. This should satisfy the most exacting. No plant can be a healthier or better grower. The fruit is very large and beautiful, and produced in the greatest abundance."

I find the plant to be very large and healthy and a fine grower. It has not fruited here.

SMELTZER EARLY.—"Very vigorous and healthy plants. Yielded an abundance of very fine fruit. Similar to Smith's Early in habit of plants and fruit; begins to ripen its fruit early, and continues in bearing a long time."—Del. Experiment Station.

Not fruited here.

ORANGE COUNTY (P).—Originated by H. S. Timbrell, of Orange County, N. Y. For strong, healthy growth the plant is all that can be desired. It has not fruited here. From the originator's account of it, it is remarkable for earliness and size. He says that he knows of none so early, so large and so good. It is a common thing to find six inch berries, which is very large to come at the beginning of the season.

BUBACH (P).—The most popular and best known very large berry.

BARTON (P).—Very vigorous, productive, and of large size.

BEDER WOOD.—Early, productive, medium size, light red, not very firm. Apt to rust.

STERLING (P).—The standing of excellence with careful growers. Best for home use.

WILSON.—The old reliable.

CUMBERLAND.—Very large and fine. Good for home use or a near market.

HAVERLAND (P).—Hardy, healthy, of good size, soft, moderately good, enormously productive.

GOV. HOARD.—Early, large, reliable and of fine flavor.

WARFIELD (P).—The most popular shipping berry.

BISEL (P).—A fine market berry from Illinois.

PRINCESS (P).—From Minnesota. Very large, productive, light red. For home use or near market.

CRAWFORD.—Good for any purpose, with high culture.

GANDY.—An old, reliable, late berry. Very large and fine.

WOOLVERTON.—One of the best. From Canada. A fine grower, large and productive.

JUCUNDA IMPROVED.—Nowhere when compared with the old Jucunda. No PLANTS.

FOREIGN VARIETIES.

I am glad to be able to offer so many of the finest varieties obtainable in Europe. Some of them will doubtless succeed here and give great satisfaction. It is not very long since all our best sorts came from Europe, and it is generally conceded that the quality is superior to that of our own. A correspondent who had had long experience in growing berries near Washington, and had tested many of our best varieties, found that in England the berries were about one-fourth larger than ours and of much better quality. As a rule they require better culture than most growers are willing to give, and they usually succeed best in hills. The Triomphe de Grand, that made such a good record here years ago, when Rev. J. Knox had eighteen acres of it, near Pittsburgh, and called it the best of all, never was a success in matted rows. It was finally superseded, to a great extent, by the Jucunda, which also had to be grown in hills for best results. We have so many varieties that will give a large yield with any kind of cultivation, that these finer sorts have been almost abandoned. For several years I have been trying to get the Jucunda, and always received something else until last fall when the genuine came to me from Colorado. I am not expecting these foreign sorts to displace our own, but I think that those who desire to produce berries of the best quality, that are also of great size and beauty, will find some of these to meet their wishes. The Jucunda brought 75 cents a quart in New York and Philadelphia, and I think no other variety ever did this afterwards. Most of our best American berries are grown in England, but they never became popular because of their inferior quality. Last season I had some of the Noble, Sensation and Royal Sovereign on high land, and they gave me the finest berries I had. Since then the Sensation rusted so badly that I am not going to offer it again.

ROYAL SOVEREIGN.—"This fine early strawberry I consider to be by far the best I have yet introduced, as it possesses all the qualities required in a good strawberry. The fruit is of the largest size, conical and sometimes flattened in shape, the color all over is a glossy bright scarlet, the flesh exceeding firm and white, the seeds set in shallow basins projecting beyond the surface, enabling the fruit to carry well; the flavor is rich and vigorous, and quite equal to that of the British Queen. (The latter is the standard of excellence in England.—M. CRAWFORD). It ripens a few days after the King of the Earlies, and here (at Bedford) in the open the first fruits were ready with Noble. The plant is very prolific, carrying several trusses of large fruits which ripen well to the extremity; it is also vigorous, hardy and a good grower; the foliage very bold and on long footstalks. The variety was raised from Noble, crossed with King of the Earlies, and is the best of several hundred seedlings from the cross, and I know of no strawberry which combines so many good qualities as 'Royal Sovereign,' although I have raised many thousands of seedlings and tried most of the known varieties. I look upon 'Royal Sovereign' as the long sought early, highly flavored and improved Sir Jos. Paxton, and just the fruit wanted to precede that popular strawberry. As a forcing variety 'Royal Sovereign' is unequalled for early work."

25 cents each; $2.50 per dozen.

CARDINAL.—"A very distinct new second early variety with large and well-shaped broadly conical fruit of exquisite flavour, probably the sweetest strawberry yet raised. Flesh firm and creamy white in colour, scarlet externally. Plant very vigorous and quite hardy. Very fertile and continuous in bearing. The leaf stalk hairy and the foliage strong. A very useful fruit on account of its high quality combined with size and early maturity."

COMMANDER.—"The most distinct and finest flavored strawberry yet introduced. Raised from 'British Queen' crossed by 'President.' The habit of the plant is remarkable, the strong, tall fruit stalks keeping erect until borne down by the weight of the fruit. The fruits are of large size, very rich and vinous in flavor, ripening well at the points, and coming in between the parents. Plant hardy and most prolific, and will grow and succeed well where 'British Queen' fails. I can highly recommend this strawberry both for forcing and open ground cultivation."

EMPRESS OF INDIA.—"Plant of compact habit and free bearer. Fruit obtusely conical, bright scarlet, approaching in flavour that of British Queen, but ripens two

or three weeks earlier, and colouring to the apex It is an excellent free-setting variety a d one of the best for f.rcing; its flesh is firm, a quality which renders it especially suitable for travelling when packed."

GUNTON PARK.—"Plant very prolific; fruit extra large and one of the handsomest yet raised, in shape varying from cockscomb to obtusely conical, dark crimson scarlet, and of a pleasant brisk flavour; the flesh is firm, richly coloured, becoming paler towards the center A fine early kind very useful for forcing and bearing in long succession."

LORD SUFFIELD.—"Plant of good habit and foliage, very prolific; fruit large and handsome, obtusely conical, inclining to c ckscomb shape, dark crimsen; flesh firm. pale in the center and richly flavored. A very distinct useful variety."

LAXTON'S No. 1.—"The earliest of all strawberries. This precocious strawberry is a seedling from Noble. fertilized by May Queen, and is unquestionably the earliest in the market, preceding May Queen, Bla k Prince, Crescent Seedling, King of the Earlies and Jno. Ruskin by several days, and is as early as it is possible to have any strawberry ripen in this climate. The fruit is of good size, bright crimson scarlet, firm and of ex ellent quality, the plant hardy and very prolific. From its extreme earliness, this variety must prove of great value, where a few days gain is now of the utmost importance."

MORERE.—"This well known French variety is PAR EXCELLENCE the strawberry grown in France both for market. forcing, and general cultivation. The quality is excellent. the fruit highly colored, travels well, and the plant is hardy and vigorous."

SCARLET QUEEN.—"The handsomest, brightest coloured, richest flavoured and best early strawberry yet introduced. A very early seedling from Noble fertilized by King of the Earlies, and coming in between these two fine early sorts. Fruit large, well formed and of hands me conical shape Colour a bright vermillion scarlet, which is retained after picking and transit. Flesh firm, yet juicy, and of a rich, full vinous flavour. Habit strong, with a bold bright green and nearly smooth foliage. A very prolific and amply rich variety, and a splend d ea ly table and market strawberry."

AUGUSTE NICAISE.—"The splendid large strawberry sent by the Earl of Pembroke to the late Emperor Frederick William in his last days. An excellent variety both for growing in the open and probably the best of all for forcing. In addition to its enormous size, the fruit is very beautiful, fi m fl sh, and of good flavor. The plant, free and productive of regular sized fruits."

ALBERT.—"One of the best late strawberries of recent continental introduction. Plant a good grower and bearer; flavour excellent, and I consider this strawberry an acquisition."

NOBLE.—"The largest, handsomest and most prolific early strawberry ever introduced—good in all respects—producing an immense quantity of very large and even sized fruit, and the plant succeeding wherever strawberries can be grown, and it is now recognized as a necessary variety for all growers of strawberries."

I imported the Noble three years ago, and fruited it last season under quite unfavorable conditions. It gave me very fine berries fully two inches in diameter, almost round, of excellent quality and fine looking. The plant is large, perfectly healthy, a strong grower, sending out a sufficient number of very strong runners.

A customer in Pennsylvania who has about a dozen of the most popular varieties, reports that the Noble is the only one that is entirely free from rust. This variety is especially adapted for forcing, and while some of our native varieties—one of the parents of the Noble is an American variety—may be as good for this purpose, or even better, it has not yet been found out. The Noble has done so well in this country that the demand for plants has always exceeded the supply. I have a good stock now and can perhaps fill all orders.

PRES. CARNOT.—This was one of the most vigorous foreign varieties, both last year and the year before. It reminds one of the Crescent. I was so well pleased with its behavior in 1894 that I set out most of the plants I had last spring. How productive it is I am unable to tell because it was nearly ruined by the freeze. The fruit is rather long, conical, smooth surface, dark, glossy red, and of good flavor. I hope to see it at its best next summer.

GROSSE LOMBARDT.—"Very large, dark red, flesh firm, great bearer, ripening very early."

EQUINOX.—This has never been offered for sale, but half a dozen plants have been given to each subscriber to THE SOUTHERN PLANTER. My present stock has been grown from the half dozen I received. I find it a healthy, luxuriant grower. It was in full bloom and promised a good crop, when frozen last May. It is claimed to be a very superior late berry.

A GREAT BERRY.

By arrangement with the originator, I am at liberty to dispose of a few plants of one of the most promising seedlings ever sent me for trial: It is not yet for sale, and I do not care to say too much about it. It has fruited twice with me, and as it had made a great record before I had it, I have watched it with a good deal of interest. I will call it, for the present, No. 1.000. The plant is large, healthy, vigorous and very prolific. Fruit very large, conical, never misshapen, dark, glossy

red, with red flesh of excellent quality. Blossom, perfect. Season, medium. Seeds on the surface. It is a berry for exhibition, for home use or for the market. Sent as a premium for early buyers.

. . . Price List . . .

NAMES.	12 by mail, postpaid.	100 by mail, postpaid.	1,000 by express, not prepaid.
Royal Sovereign	$ 2 50		
Ideal, Oriole	1 50	$ 7 00	
Wm. Belt	1 00	5 00	$40 00
Tennyson, Sparta	1 00	5 00	
Aug. Nicaise, Albert, Brunette, Cardinal, Commander, Carolina Superba, Empress of India, Fountain, Far West, Grosse Lombardt, Gunton Park, H. W. Beecher, Lord Suffield, Laxton's No. 1, Mexican, Morere, Pres. Carnot, Scarlet Queen	50		
Annie Laurie, Eleanor, Equinox, Enormous	50	2 50	
Premium	50	2 50	12 00
Gardner, Staples	40	2 00	
Marshall, Sunnyside	30	1 50	10 00
Aroma, Berlin, Beder Wood, Columbian, Cyclone, Holland, Jay Gould, Orange County, Sterling, Smeltzer, Tubbs, Wilson, Bubach	25	1 00	
Brandywine, Isabella, Ivanhoe, Noble, Rio, Mary	25	1 00	6 00
Beverly, Barton, Belle, Bisel, Cumberland, Crawford, Gov. Hoard, Gandy, Haverland, Princess, Splendid, Tennessee Prolific, Woolverton, Warfield	25	1 00	4 00

TO CANADIAN CUSTOMERS.

My good friend John Little, of Granton, Ont., is a great strawberry specialist, and has a very fine collection. His method of packing is perfect. By sending your orders to him you will get well served, and your plants will not be held in the custom house as they are likley to be when sent from the United States.

WORTH KNOWING.

S. T. Walker, Forest Grove, Oregon, makes a specialty of the sweet pea, and is prepared to furnish seed of the finest varieties ever produced. I have obtained seed from him for myself and some of my friends, and we are all delighted with its superior quality. Those who would like to grow the finest obtainable, WITH NO COMMON STUFF MIXED WITH IT, will do well to send for his price list.

PANSIES.—After obtaining seed from many places, I have found none better than that from D. B. Woodbury, Paris, Maine.

The Gladiolus.

This is the most popular of summer flowers, beautiful, showy, easily grown and blooming in this climate from July till frost comes.

From ten to thirty flowers bloom on one spike. A large spike sometimes has flowers on it for two weeks. The flowers will open as well in water as on the plant, if the spike is cut after the flower has opened.

There are several strains of gladioli, having quite different characteristics. Most of our common varieties belong to the Gandavensis strain. The Lemoine strain is very distinct from this, the flower stem being more slender and graceful and the flowers further apart. The colors are wonderful, the characteristic being a well defined blotch on the lower petals. Every collection should contain some of these.

Gladiolus bulbs may be planted in any good soil from early spring until the first of July. To prolong the season there should be several plantings at different times. Large bulbs bloom about ninety days after planting, smaller ones not quite so soon. Lemoines bloom a little sooner than Gandanvensis varieties. The bulbs may be planted, according to size from three to eight inches or more apart and from three to six inches deep. These flowers are the better for plenty of water. The bulbs should be taken up before the ground freezes, dried and kept safe from frost until spring.

I know of no better way to get a fine collection of gladioli than to buy small bulbs and mark such flowers as strike one's fancy.

My bulbs are graded as follows: No. 1, one and one-half inches and upwards in diameter; No. 2, one inch to one and one-half; No. 3, one-half to one inch; No. 4, about one-fourth to one-half inch. Most No. 3 bulbs will bloom the first year if planted early. Few No. 4 bulbs will bloom till the second season unless the conditions are unusually favorable.

PRICES AND DESCRIPTIONS.—The prices given here, except for thousands, include the postage. Where bulbs are to be sent by express, the purchaser may deduct from mail prices as follows: No. 1, 5 cents per dozen; 50 cents per hundred; No. 2, 3 cents per dozen; 25 cents per 100; No. 3, 2 cents per dozen; 10 cents per 100.

Six bulbs will be sent at dozen rates; 50 at 100 rates; 500 at 1,000 rates.

Prices are here given on all bulbs that I have for sale. Where any size or number is not priced I cannot furnish it.

STANDARD MIXTURE.—I do not sell bulbs under color, and this mixture is not what is left after certain colors have been taken out. It consists of some named varieties, of seedlings, but, most of all, of bulbs grown from bulblets from seedlings. These bulbs are nearly all Gandavensis, although there are a few Lemoines among them. They do not consist to any considerable extent of "brick red" or "salmon pink"—the bane of many mixtures. I have pulled up thousands of bulbs in bloom, let thousands freeze and thrown away bushels of bulblets to get rid of this color, and I have pretty nearly succeeded. This mixture contains nearly as great a variety as seedlings and can scarcely fail to please anybody who buys it.

No. 1, dozen 25 cents; hundred, $1.50; thousand, by express, $8.
No. 2, dozen 15 cents; hundred, 90 cents; thousand, by express, $6.
No. 3, dozen 12 cents; hundred, 60 cents; thousand, by express, $4.
No. 4, hundred, 40 cents; thousand, by mail, $2.75; thousand, by express, $2.50.

SEEDLINGS.—My seedlings are mixed Gandavensis and Lemoine. They are especially desirable where the greatest variety is desired, as no two seedlings are exactly alike. The low price at which I offer small seedlings places them in reach of all.

No. 1, dozen, 30 cents; hundred, $1.75; thousand, by express, $10.
No. 2, dozen, 20 cents; hundred, $1.25; thousand, by express, $7.
No. 3, dozen, 15 cents; hundred, 90 cents; thousand, by express, $5.
No. 4, hundred, 50 cents; thousand, by mail, $3.25; thousand, by express, $3.

MIXED GANDAVENSIS AND LEMOINES.—This mixture is of small size, mostly No. 4, and consists of bulbs grown from bulblets from the seedlings described above.

Hundred, 30 cents; thousand, by mail, $2.25; thousand, by express, $2.

MAY.—A strong growing Gandavensis. In color it is white, marked with pink, the lower petals having a delicate red-brown penciling in the throat. When in mass, the flowers present a very light pink appearance. When the season is damp and cool, the flowers are much lighter than when the season is hot and dry. The variety multiplies rapidly both in making bulblets and doubling on the bulb. The stalk is strong and stands up very straight. The flower spike is rather long, the flowers being in two rows, close together, and a good number coming out at once. On large bulbs each flower stalk generally has one main spike and two lateral. For decorations, where light flowers are wanted, no gladiolus can surpass this.

No. 1, single bulbs, 5 cents; dozen, 30 cents; hundred, $1.75; thousand, by express, $10.

No. 2, dozen, 20 cents; hundred, $1.25; thousand, by express, $7.

No. 4, hundred, 50 cents; thousand, by mail, $3.25; thousand, by express, $3.

MARIE LEMOINE.—This is perhaps the best known of the Lemoine strain. In color the flower is creamy above with a slight lilac flush. The lower petals are light yellow on the edges and, in the throat, marked with a large blotch of chocolate-purple which changes to purplish crimson when the flower is cut and allowed to open in water. This variety blooms from one to two weeks earlier than most Gandavensis varieties.

No. 1, single bulb, 5 cents; dozen, 30 cents; hundred, $1.75; thousand, by express, $10.

No. 2, dozen, 20 cents; hundred, $1.25; thousand, by express, $7.

EUGENE SCRIBE.—It is one of the best of the standard varieties. It has been before the public a long time and is still considered one of the finest. It is a strong grower sending up numerous spikes with a number of laterals. The flowers are large and of fine form. In general appearance the color is pink, but it is more carefully described as "tender rose, blazed carminate-red."

No. 1, single bulbs, 5 cents; dozen, 30 cents; hundred, $1.75.

BERTHA.—This is a tall, strong, luxuriant grower and makes a long spike with two side branches. It bears two rows of large, finely arched flowers, set close together on the stem, forming a solid mass of flame-colored bloom. The throat of the flower is pink above on three petals and purple below on the other three. The anthers are purple below and white above and the stamens and pistils are pink. It blooms early and continues late, making a long season.

No. 1, single bulb, 10 cents; dozen, $1; hundred, $6.

No. 2, dozen, 60 cents; hundred, $3.50.

MABEL.—This is a variety of rather dwarf habit. In color it is carmine or cherry, or between the two, growing lighter towards the center of the flower, where it is a delicate pink, with small carmine stain in the bottom of the cup. It bears two rows of large flowers slightly separated. Its season is long.

No. 1, single bulb, 10 cents; dozen, $1; hundred, $6.

No. 2, dozen, 60 cents; hundred, $3.50.

LULU.—A strong grower, making fine large spikes. The flowers are large and set close together. Many of them are generally open at once. The color is white with the edges of the petals delicately marked with dark crimson streaks, which in dry seasons extend well toward the center. On the whole it is one of the most delicate and beautiful varieties on the market.

No. 1, single bulb, 25 cents; dozen, $2.50.

Eben E. Rexford, the well known horticultural writer, got gladiolus bulbs from me last spring. Here is what he says about them in the PRAIRIE FARMER:

"I have never had a finer show of gladiolus than that of the past summer. I planted the Crawford strains exclusively and it seemed as if Nature must have exhausted her abilities as an artist on the brilliant flowers. Such scarlets, pinks, lilacs, mauves, pale yellows, and crimsons it would be difficult to find in any other flower. And not these colors alone, but modifications of them, and combinations that were marvels of beauty and delicacy. My bed was six feet wide by one hundred feet long, and contained 600 plants, nearly all of which sent up from two to three and four stalks. From this some idea can be gained of the display it gave. Hundreds of passers-by stopped to admire it. I gave the plants no support. They needed none, because the many stalks supported each other. I have never grown any flower that required less care. Give the gladiolus a soil of moderate richness, plant the bulbs five or six inches deep in May and keep the weeds from choking the plants, and you need do nothing more. The gladiolus is to the flower garden what the geranium is to the window garden. Be sure to plant some next year."

ABOUT RAISING STRAWBERRIES.

Strawberries are raised in hills, matted rows, or a compromise between these two methods. Each system has its advantages, and under certain circumstances it is the best. Success with any method depends on the man or woman who has charge of the culture and management of the plantation, whether it be a rod or many acres. Some people are thorough and do good work at whatever they undertake. These are the ones that raise large crops of fine berries and sell them at a high price. As I have written a great deal about raising strawberries, I will now tell how it is done by some of the most successful growers of my acquaintance.

J. G. Buchanan, of Holmes Co., O., raises over 400 bushels to the acre by hill culture.

After preparing the land in the most thorough manner, which includes a very heavy covering of stable manure, deep plowing, harrowing repeatedly and then rolling or floating, it is marked out 15 inches apart each way, and planted, leaving every third row one way vacant. This is done as early as the land can be worked in the spring. This requires nearly 19,000 plants to the acre. As soon as the planting is done the wheel hoe is started and kept running, both ways, every few days all summer. One person pulls the tool and one holds it. Of course the blossoms are nipped off the first year, and the runners whenever they start—not after they have grown until they are about ready to root, and have exhausted the parent plant nearly all they can. The wheel hoe does most of the work, but there is a little weeding and stirring around the plants that must be done by hand, as often as necessary.

During August, as many plants as may be needed for the following spring are produced by allowing two or three runners from each plant to root in the wide spaces. Of course such rows can only be cultivated one way for a time. In two or three weeks these runners are sufficiently rooted to be taken up and set pretty close together, where they stand till the following spring. This makes very strong plants, which contribute much to the success of his method. The bearing bed is very thoroughly protected during the winter.

This is only the outline of the method, but I can assure you that all the details are very carefully attended to. Aside from the preparation of the soil, all the work is done by Mr. Buchanan's children, and they are girls, and the eldest is but fifteen.

Mr. T. B. Terry, of this county, the well known writer and lecturer on agricultural subjects, is the most successful grower of strawberries by the matted row system that I have any knowledge of. I do not know of any other man in the United States who is more thorough in all he undertakes.

Mr. Terry plants in rows four feet apart with the plants half as far from each other. They receive perfect attention all the season, and the rows nearly meet in September. About the first of October the rows are narrowed up to two feet, using a line to make them straight and uniform. The plants in the row are then thinned to about six inches apart, all the loose plants being raked up and wheeled off, leaving all in perfect order. This leaves the plants nearly two months of growing weather in which to get strong, and yet it is too late in the season for them to send out runners to do any injury. This narrowing up the rows and thinning the plants constitute the chief difference between Mr. Terry's method and that of others, but it is a very great improvement.

J. B. Culp, of Columbiana Co., Ohio, makes strawberry growing an important part of his business, and he allows nothing to prevent his giving it careful attention. He uses for fertilizer, bone meal and wood ashes, all that the plants require. His plants are set two by four feet apart, and all blossoms and runners are cut off until July. This gives ample room for cultivating and hoeing, and most of the weed seeds within germinating distance of the surface are sprouted by the time that runners are allowed to root. When the plants are full of vigor and sending out many strong runners, a certain number—four, I think— are selected and placed in such positions, near the parent plant, that the row is perfectly uniform. From that time every runner that appears is promptly cut off. This gives sufficient room for thorough culture, and each plant becomes a strong hill, able to mature a large quantity of fruit.

Mr. Culp has grown 400 bushels on an acre, and I am informed that he now has four acres from which he hopes to pick 1,600 bushels next June.

When we consider that these elegant berries bring nearly twice the ordinary price, and the yield is about five times the average, we may expect that ordinary culture will soon cease to yield any profit.

TESTIMONIALS.

Herrington, Mich., Aug., 1895.

Strawberry plants for testing received from you last August arrived in good condition and grew vigorously.

The Wm. Belt produced the largest berries of any variety, new or old, on my place. One half I protected from frost; the other half I left exposed. The protected ones produced enormous sized berries of most excellent quality, which were bright and glossy in appearance.

The Brandywine, unprotected, stood the frost well on account of its heavy foliage. It has come to stay, and I think it will be largely planted when known. The berries were literally piled up under the foliage, they were so productive and large sized.—THOMAS WILDE.

Oxford, Md., May 29, '95.

Several Annie Laurie berries were five and five and one-half inches in circumference, and of the best quality when fully ripe. Have eaten a saucerful to-day that were picked on the morning of the 26th, and they were as firm and perfect as if just off the vines.

The Belle is just ripening. I find they average one and one-half inches long by one and one-fourth in diameter. It is more prolific than the Annie Laurie. Some of the single plants have fully a quart, if not more, on them.

June 10.—Picked last of Gandy; very small. Have got another picking of Belle that will run quite large, with some green berries left yet.—HENRY SNYDER.

Creston, Iowa, Oct., '95.

I have been thinking of writing you for some time, and it seems like writing home to say a few words to you. I must say that my plants that I received of you are out of sight. I never saw such plants to grow and multiply. I have thousands of first-class plants more than I need. I sold some last spring and I have more than doubled my money that I sent you. I am well pleased with your stock of plants and will recommend them over all others.—C. F. MCCUMBERS.

Your plants are invariably good. Your word for a new variety is law and gospel for me.—M. A. THAYER (Author of Thayer's Berry Bulletins).

Columbus, O., Aug., '94.

Received plants in splendid condition. They were unquestionably the finest plants I ever saw at this season of the year.—FRANK S. MILLER.

New Madison, O., April 22, '95.

Plants received next day after you shipped them. They were in fine shape. I have seen plants from —— ——, of N. Y., and from ——, of Mich., but your plants sent me beat them very much.—OMAR COBLENTZ.

The following is from Mrs. L. N. Bonham, wife of Ex-Sec. Bonham, of the Ohio State Board of Agriculture:

Oxford, O., Oct. 18, 1895.

Dear Sir:—I received from you early in September, 1894, twelve plants of the Wm. Belt Strawberry with the request that I should test them and report.

We had no rain for weeks previous to the time of their coming and they were put out in flower-pots, as were three other varieties, Parker E, Belle and Beverly, where they remained until the latter part of October. The drouth still continued, but in the hope that it would soon end they were put into the ground. From that time until they were covered for the winter we had only an occasional light shower. In spite of the adverse circumstances they went into winter quarters in a more thrifty condition than either of the three other varieties, and, when the covering was removed in the spring, every plant of the Wm. Belt was in a thrifty condition while at least one fourth of the other varieties were dead.

Early in May they were in bloom, and the first runners were seen May 11. One-half the plants were permitted to bear fruit. The berries were large, of fine form and excellent flavor, and more productive than the other fall set plants. The last of June the severe drouth of 1895 set in and now, October 18, it remains practically unbroken.

The Wm. Belt plants entirely cover the ground and late in August, we set out 35 plants in prospect of a rain which proved to be scarcely sufficient to lay the dust for half a day. About 30 of these plants lived, but we were obliged to water them daily. We hope to set out a large bed in the spring. Thanking you for your kindness, I am

Yours very truly, MRS. L. N. BONHAM.

Jeddo, N. Y., Jan 6, 1896.

The flowers raised from the bulbs bought of you last spring took the first premium at the county fair last fall. They were admired by hundreds of people, in fact they were the greatest attraction there.—W. C. EATON.

Valley Falls, Kans., Oct. 26, 1895.

Now I must tell you of my success with the 1,000 gladioli that I got from you this spring. I put them all in the same day in a rich and deep piece of ground, but I set too small a plot apart (this being my first venture). I had to plant them very close, putting the largest bulbs in first. I kept the bed clean by hand weeding, as I could not get between rows with tools. We had it very dry when they commenced blooming, but, toward the last half of blooming or during all of August, we had plenty of rain, and timely rains during July. But SUCH BLOOM and such fine spikes and colors. A good many had three flower stalks. They were so very large and thrifty that every one seeing the bed was surprised. Had a nurseryman to see them. He said such bloom beat anything he ever saw.—E. W. BENEDIX.

St. Louis, June 5, 1895.

I make a specialty of gladioli and roses and I must say I never saw such magnificent bulbs as you sent me.—ANSON D. HARTWELL.

Ravenna, O., Oct. 22, 1895.

The gladiolus bulbs did grandly, every one blooming, and a wonderful variety. Admired by everybody.—J. H. JONES.

Terre Haute, Ind.

Rec'd plants (which were very fine) in excellent condition. For high grade plants, superior packing and liberal count I have never dealt with any one who is your equal, and I have had plants from most of the leading growers of the country.—J. M. TONER.

West End, Va.

I am very much pleased with the strawberry plants and bulbs, which came in first-class condition.—MRS. N. F. GRAHAM.

Coburg, Neb.

The strawberry plants came in fine condition, and I have to thank you for your liberality —A. L. AMOS.

Cortland, N. Y.

The strawberry plants were received in excellent condition, and I am very much pleased with them.—L. S. JOHNSON.

Faribault, Minn.

I wish to thank you for your liberality in sending me such fine Brandywine strawberry plants. Though they have come over 1000 miles not a leaf was wilted.—H. H. BISHOP.

Concord, N. H.

Received the strawberry plants all right. Think every one will live. Thank you for the extras.—MRS. M. A. MORGAN.

Boise, Idaho.

Plants arrived in tip top order—all growing. Many thanks for extra count and fine quality.—J. B. MYERS.

Oregon, Wis.

I am in receipt of that basket of plants and was much surprised to find so many more than was to come. In my time of fruit growing I have never found your equal, and I assure you that you have my best thanks. I shall give you the warm shoulder whenever I can to promote your business as I think you will give every man his money's worth and more.—R. C. CRONK.

Lake Mills, Minn.

The strawberry plants arrived in good condition some time ago. As usual, they are extra strong and more than full count.—J. C. SCHULTZ.

Tallapoosa, Ga.

Strawberry plants received in good condition and are growing finely.—J. H. LEFFLER.

Haledon, N. J

The plants came in perfect condition. Excellent plants, well packed and liberally counted.—CHAS. RINNE.

Pattonville, Mo.

Plants arrived today in fine condition. No. 1 plants, No. 1 packing and sent by the "old reliable."—G. LONG.

Leslie, Mich.

Received plants today in excellent condition. It is a pleasure to deal with you. I lose no opportunity to recommend you whenever convenient.—C. N. FLANSBURGH.

The above is from a competitor, and one of the most reliable and honorable men in the trade.

Sarcoxie, Mo.

The plants sent me by mail arrived in good conditien. They were as fresh as if just dug. Thanks for extras.—F. C. GUSTAFS' N.

Shiocton, Wis., Jan. 13 1896.

The gladiolus bulbs you sent me were very fine—not a poor one in the lot. Many were quite equal to the highest priced named sorts.—EBEN E. REXFORD.

Alexandria, Va.

The Brandywine strawberry plants arrived in good order. Am surprised at the liberal count.—ANDREW SCHLEVOAT.

Townsend, Mont.

I received the Noble plants in splendid order, and they are the finest I ever saw. Think I will not lose a plant.—JOHN W. TINSLEY.

Beulah, Manitoba.

The plants arrived in first rate condition and were set out at once. They were very fine indeed and are all growing.—HERBERT C. REDKNAP.

Sparta, Wis.

Your potted Marshalls received. They were very nice. In fact what you send is always uniformly all right.—THAYER FRUIT FARMS.

Mottville, N. Y.

My gladioli are MAGNIFICENT and at such a small cost.—F. A. SINCLAIR.

Portland, Oregon.

I have the pleasure to say that bulbs and plants were received in good condition, are planted and seem to like their new home.—E. V. VOOSE

Bowling Green, Ky.

Plants received some days ago, in the usual condition they come from you—first-class.—A. D. WEBB.

Antlers, Colo.

The strawberry plants arrived in perfect condition for planting. We are well pleased with the large stocky Marshalls.—HOOVER & MOORE.

Oxford, O.

The strawberry plants came all right, in prime condition. Like your plants always are, they are strong, well rooted and perfectly handled. I always feel perfect confidence that the plants are true to name when I get them from you.—L. N. BONHAM.

Devon, Kansas.

I am glad to report that plants are received in good shape. Have received plants from many nurseries, but never saw any finer stock than these rec'd.—J. S. PENNY.

Stanton, Pa.

I received plants O. K. Was pleased with them and have them all set out.—G. S. SMITH.

Bozeman, Mont.

The strawberry plants bought of you were received in first class condition. Many thanks for l beral count —NELSON LUNDWALL.

Sparta, Wis.

Grand plants. A man who couldn't make these plants live ought not to live himself. —THAYER FRUIT FARMS.

Nauvoo, Ill.

Your plants came to hand all right and in splendid condition. We though we had the largest and finest plants in the country, but find yours as good.—NAUVOO FRUIT CO

It would be easy to furnish a large number of testimonials, but it is needless. I have been raising and handling plants over 40 years, and have been in this town 25 years. I claim to have the ability and inclination to serve my customers well, and this catalogue is sent out to bring me the opportunity.

"FLAGLE."

A NEW POTATO.

This was originated by one of the most careful growers in this county, who has given special attention to the potato for a number of years. It is a seedling of the SUMMIT, which was also originated in this county. Summit county has long been noted for its potatoes and potato specialists. I have seen over 600 varieties at our fair.

The "FLAGLE" has been grown five years, but not a single tuber has ever been sold. Some four years ago I heard the owner say that it would take the price of a good horse to pay for one potato. I have lately purchased the entire stock, and expect to introduce the variety next spring. I am not anxious to sell many now, but would be glad to have it tested in different localities, so as to know how it succeeds over a wide area. It has splendid blood in it, and it is doubtful if a more valuable variety has ever been produced. I have raised many seedlings, and have grown from ten to thirty of the leading varieties nearly every year for a quarter of a century, and I KNOW that the "Flagle" has great merit.

Last season it was grown in a field with the Monroe Seedling, Empire State and other noted varieties, and with no better chance, it yielded over 50 per cent more than any of them.

It has beautiful, dark green foliage by which it could be picked out from among 100 varieties; and it is so luxuriant that it receives less injury from the bugs, than do most others. It is large and very uniform in shape and size. The shape is oval, slightly flattened, and the eyes are quite shallow. The color is light rose, like the Early Rose, but the skin is so covered with a fine netting that, when dry, it might easily be mistaken for a white, russety potato. The flesh is white and of the best quality. I have never seen any variety that cooks dryer to the center. Almost any variety is dry near the skin, but this is dry and floury clear through. The largest specimens are never hollow. Its season is medium.

It will be sold this year by the pound at fifty cents, postpaid, to all who promise to report on its behavior, not later than next October.

It is no great feat to raise from three to six bushels from a pound. Many have done far better. Cut to single eyes, plant one in a place, in very rich soil, and give thorough cultivation.

M. CRAWFORD, CUYAHOGA FALLS, O.